

Application No. 09/937,238
In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of April 29, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 0702-011472



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/937,238
Confirmation No. : 6232
Applicant : **Mechteld G.M. RUTTEN**
Filed : January 29, 2002
Title : **EASY-OPEN PEEL SEAL FOR
FLEXIBLE PACKAGE**
Group Art Unit : 3727
Examiner : Jes F. Pascua
Customer No. : 28289

DECLARATION OF JOOST VERMUË UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enter.
Joost Vermuë
08/16/04

I, Joost Vermuë, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am the Packaging Technology Manager at Masterfoods Veghel B.V.
2. I manage the European packaging technology team for the innovation of cross-category packaging, including snack, pet and human food packaging.
3. I have no financial interest in this invention, and I am not an inventor thereof.
4. I have reviewed the prosecution of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/937,238, filed January 29, 2002 and entitled "Easy-Open Peel Seal for Flexible Package." I have further reviewed the patents cited by the Patent Examiner during the prosecution of this application, including U.S. Patent Nos. 4,759,472 to Strenger and 4,964,515 to Heyden, and I believe that the package of flexible material, method of producing such a package and method for packaging a product, as set forth in the claims of Application No. 09/937,238, represent novel and improved packages, production methods and packaging methods that are distinguishable